

REMARKS

Summary Of Interview

Applicant, Robert E. Rodgers, Jr., and the undersigned met with Examiner Stephen Crow on August 24, 2006. Applicant and the undersigned would like to thank Mr. Crow for his availability and courtesy. Claims 598, 769 and 770 as set forth above were discussed. An agreement was reached on their allowability subject to Mr. Crow's further review of the art.

Response to Restriction Requirement

The Examiner has required an election among Group I (figures 4-43), among the cam-type resistive/restoring embodiment -- Group II (figures 2a, 2b, 2c and 2d), and among the spring and/or damper embodiment -- Group III (figures 3a, 3b, 3c and 3d).

Applicant traverses this election requirement to the extent that an election of one or more of the embodiments shown in figures 4-43 of Group I includes either the cam-type resistive embodiment shown in one or more of the figures comprising Group II or the spring and/or damper embodiment comprising one or more of the figures shown in Group III. The more appropriate restriction would first be between either Group II or III and then the selection of figures from Group I based on the election of either Group II or III. Nevertheless, applicant hereby elects the cam system arrangement depicted in Group II (figures 2a-2d) and the following species from Group I having a cam system arrangement -- figures 19-23. Independent claims 598, 769 and 770 as set forth above are generic to Group II and include at least the species selected from Group I as noted above.

Clarification of Previously Filed Information Disclosure Statements

At the August 24, 2006 interview, Applicant identified the following references which appear to be most material in the examination of the amended claims as currently pending:

5,499,956
5,735,774
5,935,046
6,027,430

6,206,804

6,500,096

6,689,019

Publication 2002/0094914

Provisional Application serial number 60/480,668

filed June 23, 2003 of Publication 2005/0026752.

As noted during the interview, in the present application only the first provisional application (S/N 60/480,668) of the Lull Publication US 2005/0026752, filed June 23, 2003 is prior art since neither figure 4 nor 4a of the present application is an elected species. Figures 4 and 4a are part of the first disclosure set forth in applicant's provisional application filed June 6, 2003. The other provisional application (S/N 60/555,434) of the Lull Publication US 2005/0026752 which was filed March 22, 2004, is later than all the provisional applications relied upon for priority in the present application and, therefore, is not prior art.

Additionally, Applicant notes that the following references are pertinent to the invention, although they do not appear to be as material as the ones listed above:

5,290,211	6,338,698
5,299,993	6,361,476
5,401,226	6,368,252
5,743,834	6,390,953
5,762,588	6,416,442
5,779,599	6,436,007
5,865,712	6,440,042
5,910,072	6,565,486
5,919,118	6,612,969
5,921,894	6,626,802
5,957,814	6,629,909
5,993,359	6,648,801
5,997,445	2001/0001305
6,027,431	2001/0036886
6,053,847	2001/0051562
6,123,650	2001/0056010
6,126,574	2002/0019298
6,152,859	2002/0055420
6,165,107	2002/0165066
6,183,397	2002/0198084
6,196,948	6,019,710
6,217,485	6,036,622
6,248,044	6,719,666
6,248,045	2004/0097339

An additional Information Disclosure Form PTO 1449 is attached which lists all these references for the Examiner's convenience.

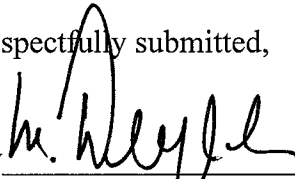
Applicant respectfully submits that all pending claims following entry of this amendment are allowable.

Additionally, per the Examiner's request, attached is a terminal disclaimer to obviate a provisional double patenting rejection over pending referenced applications.

Since this response is being filed within the one (1) month response period set to expire September 23, 2006 no late fee is required for entry of this amendment. A fee of \$400 is due for the new claims added in view of the cancellations. Additionally, pursuant to 37 CFR § 1.20(d) a terminal disclaimer fee of \$130 is due. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to debit a total of \$530 in payment of these fees from our Deposit Account No. 06-2380 under Order No. 53358/P005US/10608114 from which the undersigned is authorized to draw. Further, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to withdraw any additional fees required for entry of this amendment and response.

Dated: September 13, 2006

Respectfully submitted,

By 

Marc L. Delflache

Registration No.: 28,942
FULBRIGHT & JAWORSKI L.L.P.
2200 Ross Ave., Suite 2800
Dallas, Texas 75201
(214) 855-7150
(214) 855-8200 (Fax)
Attorney for Applicant